

abundant at "Beulah" and along the Kennebec, Winslow; *Aster tardiflorus*, L., by the Messalonskee, Waterville; *Sagina procumbens*, L., river-banks; and *Elatine americana*, Arn., very abundant in mud by the Messalonskee.

Tofieldia glutinosa, Willd., collected in 1829 by J. W. Robbins, "on the banks of the Kennebec, at Teconic Falls," but not since seen, was searched for by many members; but not until after the adjournment of the regular meetings was the plant found by E. B. Chamberlain and the writer, a single specimen growing in the midst of *Rhynchospora capillacea*, var. *leviseta*, thus reëstablishing Robbins's station. Other interesting plants collected on the excursions were *Solidago humilis*, Pursh, by the Kennebec, Waterville and Winslow; *Myriophyllum alterniflorum*, DC., Great Pond, Belgrade; *Astragalus alpinus*, L., by the Kennebec, Winslow; and *Halenia deflexa*, Griseb., var. *heterantha*, Fernald (RHODORA, i. 37), by a spring, "Beulah."

SOIL-PREFERENCES OF SOME LESS USUAL VASCULAR PLANTS IN CENTRAL CONNECTICUT.

L. ANDREWS.

As soils and altitude have much to do with the distribution of plants the town of Southington, situated in Central Connecticut, possesses from its varied conditions advantages in a botanical way probably not surpassed by any area of its extent in the state. With an altitude ranging from 100 to 1000 feet, it possesses soils which on one side extend into the granite region of western Connecticut and on the other cover extensive trap dykes, while the intermediate section, resting upon Triassic sandstone, has a covering of drift varying from heavy clay loams and gravel hills to the most barren shifting white sands. That this diversity of soil conditions favors an equal variety of vegetation is shown by the fact that one thousand species have already been collected within this area of thirty-six square miles.

In the following notes are mentioned some of the more interesting plants of Southington and its immediate vicinity.

Populus monilifera, Ait., the cottonwood, although seeming to prefer damp locations, has been found on Meriden Mountain growing among the rocks at an altitude of five hundred feet. The beautiful little orchid *Li-*

paris liliifolia, Richards., one of the Tway-blades, usually grows in sandy soils but is here found at the summit of a trap dyke, at an altitude of one thousand feet, growing under the low branches of the ground hemlock, *Taxus Canadensis*, Willd., which is rare in this region and found only at this station. *Myosotis verna*, Nutt., is found in the thin crust of soil, high up on the same trap dyke, which is also the only station for *Cardamine parviflora*, L., yet found in this region. *Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi*, Spreng., the bearberry, with its glossy evergreen leaves and bright red berries, so showy in early winter, grows still further out upon the exposed edge of the same cliff, where also on the precipitous rocks cling the hare-bell and the rare cliff-brake, *Pellaea atropurpurea*, Link.

On the lower ledges of the mountain occur the three green orchids *Habenaria bracteata*, R. Br., *H. Hookeri*, Torr., and *H. hyperborea*, R. Br., the last sparingly represented at a single station.

On a sandy plain, but in a depression which is well filled with springs, making it quite wet during the whole season, are found five species not seen elsewhere in this vicinity, namely, the ever-attractive orchid, *Arethusa bulbosa*, L., the linear-leaved golden-rod, *Solidago tenuifolia*, Pursh, the club-moss, *Lycopodium inundatum*, L., and two grasses, *Muhlenbergia glomerata*, Trin., and *Trisetum palustre*, Torr., *Aster lineariifolius*, L., occurs on the white sand plain, which extends nearly across the town, but is also found on some of the trap dykes. Its location, however, must be dry and sterile.

On the granite ridge at an altitude of six hundred feet, were found, during the past season, two interesting milkworts, *Polygala Nuttallii*, Torr. & Gray, and *P. verticillata*, var. *ambigua*, Wood. Both were growing by the roadside in damp, sandy soil and in open grass land. So far as known this is the first time that either of these species has been reported as growing in Connecticut.

The mountain mint, *Pycnanthemum muticum*, Pers., is here found only in granite soil, and the same can be said of the grass, *Sporobolus serotinus*, Gray, and the white cedar, *Chamaecyparis sphaeroides*, Spach.

Among escapes, which are well established, mention might be made of the Jersey pine, *Pinus inops*, Ait., growing in hard, rocky trap soil, and *Ptelea trifoliata*, L., found along fence-rows.

Centaurea Jacea, L., *Berteroa incana* DC., *Silene dichotoma*, Ehrh., *Amsinckia lycopsoides*, Lehm., and *Picris echioides*, L., are recent introductions, but also well established.

SOUTHINGTON, CONN.